

Message Text

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46

ACTION SMI-01

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-04 OES-06 TRSE-00 /022 W

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R 091540Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9420

UNCLAS RABAT 4293

DEPARTMENT PASS TO NATIONAL ZOO DIRECTOR THEODORE REED

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EBIO MO

SUBJECT: SMITHSONIAN -- COOPERATION ON CONSERVATION OF ATLAS LIONS

1. DR. RAIMOND ADVISES THAT MOST EXPEDITIOUS MEANS AVAILABLE FOR SHIPMENT OF LIONS TO NATIONAL ZOO IN WASHINGTON IS VIA AIR FRANCE CARGO FLIGHT 1202 WHICH DEPARTS CASABLANCA EVERY THURSDAY AT 1600 HOURS AND ARRIVES PARIS CHARLES DEGAULLE AT 2200 HOURS SAME DAY. TWO POSSIBILITIES FOR ONWARD SHIPMENT FROM DEGAULLE. FIRST IS TWA FLIGHT 803 WHICH DEPARTS FOLLOWING DAY (FRIDAY) AT 1200 HOURS. ASSUME THIS NOT BEST OPTION AS CARGO CARRIED IN BELLY HOLD WHICH ACCORDING REED/FLAHERTY TELECON OF AUGUST 7 UNSUITABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR ANIMALS. THUS, BEST OPTION APPEARS BE AIR FRANCE CARGO DEPARTING CHARLES DEGAULLE AT 1210 ON SAME DAY (FLIGHT 1305).

2. FACT THAT AIR FRANCE FLIGHT IS CARGO ONLY NECESSARILY PRESUPPOSES OBTAINING PERMISSION FOR ROBERTS TO ACCOMPANY. EMBASSY WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN NECESSARY CLEARANCE THIS END, BUT WOULD SUGGEST THIS BE INVESTIGATED WASHINGTON END AS WELL IN ORDER ENSURE RESULTS.

3. SHIPMENT WILL CONSIST OF THREE CAGES MEASURING 150-180 CM IN LENGTH, 50-60 CM IN WIDTH, AND 100-130 CM IN HEIGHT. NATIONAL ZOO WILL HAVE TO PROVIDE GUARANTEE OF PAYMENT TO AIR FRANCE WHICH EMBASSY CAN DO UPON RECEIPT OF GUARANTEE FROM SMITHSONIAN. NATIONAL ZOO
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WILL HAVE TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR ONWARD SHIPMENT OF

LIONS FROM JFK.

4. IN ORDER FOR ROBERTS VISIT SITE OF BARBARY APES
AT AYN LEUH NEAR AZROU-- 207 KILOMETERS DISTANCE FROM
RABAT -- SUGGEST HE PLAN ARRIVE TWA SUNDAY FLIGHT, LEAVING
AUGUST 14.

5. AMBASSADOR HAS EXPRESSED INTEREST IN ACCOMPANYING
ROBERTS DURING AZROU VISIT TOGETHER WITH SCIENCE OFFICER.
IF SMITHSONIAN CONCURS, EMBASSY WILL ARRANGE LOGISTICS
THROUGH DR RAIMOND TO VISIT AREA.

6. AS PER FLAHERTY/ROBERTS TELECON, EMBASSY ARRANGING
FOR LIONS TO DEPART ON AUGUST 19 AIR FRANCE FLIGHT 1202.
ANDERSON

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Message Attributes

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